

## **High straying rates of hatchery coho in upper Hood Canal tributaries**

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The survival of wild Hood Canal coho salmon is of international concern as coho are important to both Canadian and U.S. fisheries. However, management at sea can be undermined on the spawning grounds. Ten years of survey data indicates that the numbers of hatchery spawners found in streams of upper Hood Canal have ranged from 30 to 100 percent of the total spawning population. Some streams show consistently high straying rates, while others do not. Local netpen operations that rear coho to the smolt stage and a large federal hatchery are probably the main sources of hatchery strays. Hood Canal is purportedly managed for wild coho, however, the evidence suggests otherwise.